Lat 39.12847 Lon -120.70258

Forest Health Protection

Pacific Southwest Region

Date: September 20, 2001
File Code: 3420

To: District Ranger, Foresthill Ranger District, Tahoe National Forest

Subject: Divide Underburn Administrative Study – Conifer Survivability Monitoring Report (NE01-10)

On July 7, 2001, Rick Turcotte and Danny Cluck from the Northeastern California Forest Health Protection Shared Service Area (FHP) visited the Divide burn units on the Foresthill Ranger District. The purpose of this trip was to re-evaluate and document any changes in selected trees that had occurred since the November 2000 inspection.

FHP personnel initiated this study in July of 2000 to monitor the survivability of fire-injured conifers trees within both spring and fall burn units (See: Divide Underburn Study plan, dated August 31, 2000 for details). A total of 171 trees (149 ponderosa pine, 10 incense cedar, 10 white fir and 2 sugar pine) were initially selected based on their crown conditions. Data collected included: species, DBH, tree height, total crown, insect and/or disease activity present and the amount of cambial injury. Each tree was photographed to document its initial condition.

Fourteen trees (10 ponderosa pine two white fir and two sugar pine) have died over the last nine months. Data for these trees, including their initial percent live crown and amount of cambial injury, are included in Table 1. To date 53 % of the selected trees have died (Table 2). Study trees will be monitored again in the spring of 2002.

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The District may remove the dead trees, if remaining study trees will not be impacted. Please make sure trees designated for removal correspond with the trees in Table 1.

If you have any questions regarding this report please call any of the Entomology staff at 530-257-2151.

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Table 1. Trees that died between November 2000 and July 2001.

Tree number	Species	DBH	% live Crown[#]	Cambial rating (0-4)[*]	Season of burn
22	PP	12.9	52.6	1	spring
29	PP	11.7	25.0	2	spring
30	SP	14	18.2	1	spring
43	PP	6.9	41.2	4	spring
56	SP	9.0	60.9	3	spring
77	PP	14.4	61.8	4	spring
68	PP	11.8	53.6	2	spring
86	WF	12.0	40.9	2	fall
87	PP	12.6	59.4	2	fall
110	PP	10.0	59.4	2	fall
130	WF	9.0	55.6	4	fall
133	PP	10.4	32.3	3	fall
143	PP	14.7	35.3	0	fall
117	PP	9.6	67.7	1	fall

[#] The percentage of the original live crown in which twigs and buds are still alive after fire, including parts bearing green or partial green foliage.

* Cambial rating of 0-4 based on cambial samples taken at each of the cardinal directions near ground level. A rating of 0 is equal to no fire damage for any sample a 4 is cambial damage found at each sample location.

Table 2. Summary of dead trees.

Date	Action	# of trees	WF	PP	SP	IC
July 2000	Study initiated	171	10	147	2	10
		# of dead trees				
Nov. 2000	Monitored	76	1	75	0	0
July 2001	Monitored	14	2	10	2	0
	Total dead	90 (53%)	3 (30%)	85 (58%)	2 (100%)	0 (0%)